



That day, a *thump, thump, thump* sound came from the other side of the door... ... And it was that sound which belonged to the light steps that woke Shidou Itsuka up.

It was probably his little sister Kotori who was coming to wake him up. It was a daily scene which was repeated every morning. He was sure that, in a few seconds, the door to his bedroom would throw open at once and a cheerful voice would fill the room.

However----

“-----Ufufu... You are a sleepyhead, aren't you, Onii-sama?”

The voice he heard through the blankets was one that he would've never imagined.

“... ..Buh?!”

He kicked the blankets in reflex and got out of the bed with a jump. Then, the girl who had entered the room placed her hand on her mouth mockingly.

“Ara, ara. You were already awake?”

“Ku-Kurumi... ..?!”

Shidou rubbed his blurry eyes and opened his eyelids. The one standing there was not Kotori, but a young girl whose characteristic features were her black hair and her white-porcelain skin. Every time she laughed quietly, the space between the long bang of her left eye could be seen, in which a clock shaped eye was drawn.

“What are you doing here?!... .. Or rather, “Onii-sama”?”

“Ara, ara. You are still half asleep? Ufufu... That Onii-sama is also charming, but if we go on like this the breakfast I cooked will end up getting cold.”

Kurumi said that while laughing disarmingly. Next, she made her body spin around while turning; her skirt waved as she left the room.

“Ah---- H-hey, Kurumi!”

Shidou called to her, but Kurumi was walking down the stairs without paying attention to him.

“Just what the hell is going on... ..?”

After being dumbfounded for a while, he asked himself if he wasn't still inside a dream and he pinched his cheek.

However, the abnormalities were not limited to just that.

“Ara. Good morning, Shidou-san. It’s a wonderful day, isn’t it?”

“... ..Eh?”

After Shidou had already left the house, in front of the entrance he met with Kurumi, who was wearing the Raizen High School uniform.

“Eh? Kurumi? Why are you here if you were inside the house just now?”

“Ufufu... You are saying some weird things, aren’t you, Shidou-san? More importantly, let’s go at once. We will end up getting late.”

“Ah, wait... ..”

Kurumi started walking down the road with quick steps. Shidou quickly pursued her.

Then, not too long after that, they arrived at the school. Shidou entered the classroom, and he couldn’t help but stare speechless at the scene unfolding there.

“Wha... ..?”

But that was totally understandable. After all...

“Good morning, me.”

“Eh, me. Today’s weather is lovely as well, right?”

“Maa, what a cute little cat. Where did you take this picture?”

“Why don’t we go to the cafeteria in front of the station after school?”

...having everyday conversations like those ones, there was a huge number of “Kurumis”.

The conversation topics were totally peaceful. However, the ones talking were girls who had the exact same appearance. So at this point, the story is different.

“... ..”

“Is something wrong, Shidou-san?”

Shidou placed his hand on his forehead and stood in silence. Then, the Kurumi he came to school with spoke to him from behind.

“... ..Well, no, it’s just that... .. I can’t see anything other than Kurumi.”

“Ara, ara... Is that a love confession?”

Kurumi blushed slightly. Shidou’s forehead began to sweat.

“I didn’t mean that. It’s more like, literally... ..”

Then, at that moment, Shidou shook his eyebrows.

The ones at the classroom were all Kurumi, but they were not all the same. In one of the corners of the classroom, three different Kurumis had gathered. That’s right. They were all wearing an eyepatch on their left eye.

However, its three shapes were different. One carried a medicinal one; another one a bandage; and the last one was wearing a very nice one decorated with frills.

“Hey, Kurumi, those three... ..?”

“What are you talking about?”

“Well, the three over there... ..”

"I don't understand what you are talking about, Shidou-san."

“ ”

The moment Kurumi said that, the chime he had heard so many times echoed in the surroundings.

It was the chime which announced the beginning of classes. All the Kurumis that were chatting in the classroom returned to their respective seats. Even though Shidou felt something he couldn't understand; he took his seat like everyone else.

A few moments later, another Kurumi entered the classroom. Unlike the other Kurumis, this one was not wearing a uniform; instead, she wore a pair of glasses and had an attendance sheet on her hand. It looks like this one is the teacher.

“... .. So the teacher is also Kurumi, huh?”

“Did you say something, Itsuka-kun?”

“N-no... ..”

Shidou hid his words and the Kurumi teacher smiled. After that, she opened the attendance record.

“Well then, I’ll be taking attendance. ----Itsuka-kun.”

“Ehh... .. Yes.”

“Tokisaki-san.”

[illegible]

“Well then, looks like everyone’s here.”

“And it’s fine just like that?!”

Even though Shidou yelled, the teacher Kurumi slammed shut the attendance record, *Pan*, without paying attention to him.

“Well then, let’s work hard today as well. You all know today’s subjects, right?”

“Yes, yes.”

“Of course.”

Responding to teacher Kurumi’s voice, the Kurumis nodded.

“The first and second hours are Music; the third and fourth hours are Domestic Economy; the fifth and sixth hours are Physical Education, right?”

“Why are there only practical subjects?!”

Shidou said that almost unconsciously. Then the Kurumis started echoing small giggles.

“Ufufu... It’s just that~...”

“Since we have the presence of Shidou-san...”

“Just sitting and taking lessons are no fun.”

“... ..”

Shidou felt something disturbing and sweat began to fall from all over his face.

“... ..This, I’d like to ask just in case, but what are we going to do in those subjects?”

After Shidou asked that, every Kurumi drew big smiles on their faces.

“Just the normal thing...”

“Use Shidou-san as a musical instrument, and see what voice he lets out if we touch him here and there...”

“Have Shidou-san taste all of our food...”

“Have an exciting swimming competition, with just Kurumi... Well, of course this is all just a joke.”

“Don’t you think it’s a little too specific for a joke?!”

Shidou stood from his chair, dragging it with a loud sound.

“U-um, I’m not feeling too well, I’ll be going to the infirmary... ..”

“Ara... Now that’s serious. Health Committee members, please escort Shidou-san to the infirmary.”

“Yes, yes. Understood.”

“Well then, Shidou-san. Let’s go to the infirmary, where the “me” with the white coat is waiting with a well-groomed bed.”

“Won’t you let me escape?!”

Shidou raised his voice, which seemed like a scream, and looked around trying to find a way out of the classroom.

However, the ones around him were a crowd of Kurumis, “the worst spirit”. The Kurumis, with an attitude like a predator staring at a weak prey, began to surround Shidou slowly.

“Ufufu... Looks like you are quite healthy, aren’t you?”

“Well then, let’s go to the Music classroom.”

“Yes ~... ... Shidou-san?”

“Wai... ...! I-iyaaaaaaaaaaaaa!”

Shidou’s scream resounded throughout the whole school building.